

**Craft-Turney Water Supply Corporation (PWSID: TX0370016)**  
**South Cherokee County, Texas**

**Update (October 5, 2018)**

EPA Region 6 continues to assist with TCEQ on a public water supply contamination issue.

TCEQ learned that the product is a type of commercial fungicide. SDS sheets have been provided to the TCEQ Toxicology which are under review. The TCEQ is coordinating with the water system on a sampling plan. Sampling began on October 4, 2018.

The TCEQ Tyler Region conducted sampling at 21 sites yesterday (October 4) which covers the full affected hydraulic pressure plane, as well as two sites at connecting pressure planes. These samples were delivered to Ana-Lab in Kilgore on October 4.

There are two types of analyses that will be conducted on these samples, one for each of the constituents in the fungicide. One constituent (chlorothalonil) is not water soluble and the samples taken will be analyzed for chlorothalonil. The other constituent (methylene bis-thiocyanate, MBT) is soluble in water and degrades to cyanide. There is currently not a test for MBT, so the sample taken will be analyzed for the presence of cyanide, which is a degradation product in water. The results for the cyanide should be available within 24 hours of analysis (tonight) and the results for the chlorothalonil should be available on Saturday.

Additionally, the TCEQ has requested the EPA's Lab in Houston develop a method for testing for MBT. The Houston Lab has found some scientific literature indicating HPLC can be used to analyze MBT in water. During the morning of October 5, EPA located a reference standard of MBT for the lab to use in developing the analytical method. The reference standard of MBT is being shipped to the Houston lab today (from Memphis, TN).

The TCEQ is also verifying in the field today information received from the operator related to measures taken to isolate parts of the system from the fungicide.

The TCEQ Tyler Region has received two complaints specific to the drinking water; one alleged health effects of a 17-year old male who went to the hospital who had consumed the water. Other members in the household have not used or drank the water and are not experiencing health impacts. The second complainant is concerned with drinking water quality. The Region is responding to both complaints, including conducting sampling.

The TCEQ has coordinated with DSHS. Calls alleging health concerns are additionally being referred to DSHS, health practitioners and/or the poison control center.

**Background**

Craft-Turney WSC, located in South Cherokee County, South of Jacksonville, issued a Do Not Use order 10/3/18, on 16 connections related to a back siphonage event at

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

On 9/29/18 the water system repaired a water line break.

On 10/01/18 the water system received complaints of water quality including burning or irritated skin after exposure to the water. The water system believes a back siphonage may have occurred during the line break repair. Samples were collected and the system is waiting on the lab results.

TCEQ determined a tank containing a wood preservative, for treating wood pallets did not have a backflow prevention device.

Early reports that the fungicide was part of the PFAS family of chemicals is incorrect.

Texas has issued a do not drink water order and a sampling plan to test the drinking water system.

TCEQ has requested EPA Assistance with developing a method for MBT (methylene bis-thiocyanate), so they can make a declaration about the absence/presence of it in the Drinking Water before lifting the do not use order.

Approximately 1,500 hundred now under bottled water restrictions. Ten pallets of water were delivered last night. An additional 27 pallets will be delivered tonight. One local church is offering its facility for showers to those individuals impacted.

The TCEQ has coordinated with DSHS. Calls alleging health concerns are additionally being referred to DSHS, health practitioners and/or the poison control center.

As of October 4, 2018. One media inquiry has been received.

**Press**

<https://www.easttexasmatters.com/news/local-news/craft-turney-water-supply-issues-do-not-use-order-to-customers/1496197618>